

Minutes of a Meeting of Elkstone Parish Council
8.00 p.m., Wednesday 24th July 2013, in Elkstone Village Hall

Present: Mssrs Hobbs (Chair) Collins, Cooch, Luck, Muschamp; Mrs. Eyre (Clerk)

1. Minutes of the last Meeting (22nd May 2013) were accepted and signed

2. Matters arising - there were none

3. Finance

3.1 Payment of Accounts - none

3.2 Proposed Section 137 donation to EVHMC to help defray cost of Newsletter production
Newsletter costs for the last two years have been £112.00, and EPC has previously granted £100.00

A S.137 donation of £100.00 as last two years, proposed Mr Cooch, seconded Mr. Collins, carried nem. con. A cheque for £100.00 was written, signed and will be hand-delivered.

3.3 R.F.O.'s Report on Year to Date Income & Expenditure against Budget was accepted with thanks.

4. Pension Scheme and auto-enrolment - Mr. Cooch tabled a brief paper on this - in summary, EPC will need to have a scheme in place for its employees by August 2016, but can expect to receive a reminder from the Pensions Regulator 12 months before this. Mr. Cooch's paper to be filed under 'Pension Scheme'.

5. Planning

5.1 Proposed new building and access at the Guide Camp, Bubb's Hill - this is a revised application for a much smaller building, due to that for which permission had previously been granted proving too expensive to realize. Councillors had no objection.

5.2 Proposal for crown reduction/felling of trees at The Old Rectory - this notification was for information only.

5.3 Proposed new barn at High Cross Farm.

Mr. Hobbs declared an interest. Councillors had no objection, and noted CDC have already granted permission for this agricultural building.

6. Petition for amendment of the National Planning Policy Framework - noted.

7. Winter preparations

7.1 Salt & grit - the maximum additional amount has been ordered

7.2 Confirmed that Mr Gibbs will continue as Snow Warden, with the Mssrs Thorn the driving snow plough.

7.3 To consider ordering new salt+grit bins - Councillors considered no more needed.

8. Community Speedwatch reports - Dr. Eyre and all volunteers thanked for their efforts.

9. Correspondence from the Parish - none

10. Other correspondence

10.1 CDC consultation on Housing Allocation scheme – this appeared to be very similar to the within-parish survey of several years ago – no further action.

10.2 Other correspondence was put into circulation.

11. Meetings

PCSO's Neighbourhood Co-ordination Group – 3rd July - Mr Collins reported that there was a smaller attendance than usual, possibly due to the very warm evening, and/or the clash with a significant Wimbledon semi-final.

Speedwatch is expanding, there are now 30 co-ordinators and 25 parishes in the scheme locally.

There have been complaints from volunteers about the obscene gestures made by some motorists, apparently these can be photographed and reported.

The meeting was also told of further economies in policing, presented as a sharing of resources.

Although the overall crime rate is down, there have been 68 'opportunist' thefts lately, people are reminded to be vigilant about securing houses, garages, sheds and vehicles even in hot weather.

The next meeting will be in Winstone in October (Elkstone Village Hall was offered, but has been deemed to have too small a carpark).

12. A.O.B.

12.1 NALC is to publish a new guide for Parish Councils in October, cost £49.99 – noted.

12.2 There are now several hedges around the parish which have not been kept properly cut back, and hence are obstructing highways.

A reminder on householder responsibility to be placed in September's Newsletter

12.3 Noted that, after a number of complaints, the obstructing stones along a verge have at last been removed.

13. Dates of next Meeting – Hall bookings are confirmed for the dates agreed at May's Meeting; EPC's next meeting: 25th September

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.